

JANUARY 2024



REDEEMER REPORTER

The newsletter of Redeemer Lutheran Church, Boise, Idaho



From the Council

Happy New Year!!! As exciting as 2023 was – 2024 is going to be even better! Church Council will be meeting on Thursday, January 11 to discuss the budget and plans for the semi-annual meeting that will be held on Sunday, January 28.

We will have a potluck following the 10 am worship service and the meeting will follow. The budget will be available on the two Sundays before the 28th, the 14th and the 21st.

We look forward to everyone participating in planning for 2024 at Redeemer. If you have any items for the Council Agenda on the 11th or the Congregational meeting on 28th, please send them to Bonita Hammer, 208-841-9563, bonitahammer@icloud.com

Thanks!

thank you

Have you noticed with all improvements in the “kid’s room” by the narthex? Thanks to:

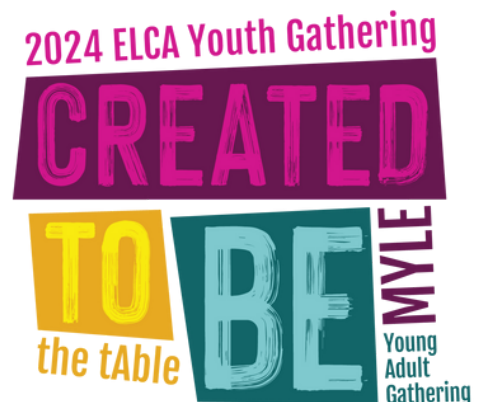
- The Arnold Family, Terri and Naomi Lindemann and Keira May for fixing up the space so families have a clean, safe, fun place for little ones.
- Everyone who helped decorate the Church for Advent and Christmas. Everyone appreciated the blessings of a beautiful, joyous, peaceful place.
- Pastor Mariah and Michael for hosting the Open House so the folks to gather, visit and see the improvements that have been made to the parsonage.
- Roxanne Wasson, Denise Puisto, musicians and all the worship and music folks who shared their talents to lead us in our services.
- Nominating Committee for getting a full slate of candidates and the candidates for agreeing to serve.

Events Coming Up:

- **January 11, Council Meeting**
- **January 10, Bingo Night** (changed from Jan 15)
- **Sunday, January 28, Semi-Annual Meeting and Potluck**
- **February 13, Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper – freewill offering for Youth Gathering**
- **February 14, Ash Wednesday**

Created to Be

After a 6 year gap due to COVID, the ELCA is preparing for the 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans! The Gathering for decades has been a transformative and life changing opportunity for youth across the country. For a week in July, thousands of youth and volunteers will travel to NOLA for worship, music, speakers, service in the community, fellowship with their group and synod, devotions, and connecting with ministries of the ELCA. The mission and goals of the Gathering are for all who attend to be affirmed and challenged in their faith, experience new perspectives, ponder their vocation, bond with their group, and learn more about the ELCA and our partners.



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Since the last Gathering in 2018, young people have experienced several major life events. The theme of this year's Gathering is "Created to Be," with the theme verse being Psalm 139. After several years of challenge and upheaval, the Gathering hopes to remind young people that they were indeed created by God, the Creator of the cosmos. Each day has a specific focus, diving into who we each have been created to be:

- **Brave:** to show up with an open mind and heart, willing to be challenged
- **Authentic:** to bring our whole selves and know that we are loved by our Creator
- **Free:** to be transformed by the Gospel
- **Disruptive:** to work for justice for all our siblings
- **Disciples:** to be sent out into the world to love our neighbor just as we are loved by God.

For this Gathering, Luther Heights is taking a group of over 20 students and chaperones, representing 7 different congregations in the Treasure Valley. 2 of those students, **Sam LeBoeuf and Owen Preboski**, are students from Redeemer. Throughout the next several months, as these students work to fundraise for the Gathering, I invite you to pay attention to fundraisers and opportunities to support Owen and Sam, along with the other students in the Valley attending the Gathering. I encourage you to take the time to ask Sam and Owen about why they want to go to the Gathering—I am confident their answers will leave you with a spark of hope.

On the Gathering's website, it says:

"we know that this is a powerful and transformational ministry if you are brave enough to let your guard down long enough for the Spirit to enter in, if you can be quiet long enough to listen to someone different from yourself, if your prayer is to be open to what God is calling you to, if you realize the strong roots of a community will ground you no matter the strength of life's storms, if you imagine yourself as part of something bigger than you."

As we begin this new year as a faith community, may we see that this is not only true for the Gathering, it is true for Redeemer's ministry as well. May we be brave, may we listen, may we be open to God's calling, may we be rooted in our communities, and may we remember that we have the joy of being part of something bigger than ourselves. This year, may we remember who we have been Created to Be.

In Christ's love,



Pastor Mariah Mills

**A LIFE CHANGING
FAITH FORMATION EVENT
OF THE ELCA**

ALL IN THE FAMILY



JANUARY Celebrations

*Happy
Birthdays*

Shirley Olson	9
Arlene Stoor	13
Brady Chilcote	15
Jeff Menzner	16
Bonita Hammer	18
Gerald Stoor	20
Dyar Frank	26
LaDawn Kidd	24
Zach Preboski	28

*Keeping in
Prayer*

CARES AND CONCERNS

Mike Wallick
Jill Carlson
Pam Mayer
Roger Oldenberg
Bonnie Yamaski
Gloria Jay
Karen Frank

MILITARY

Seth Erickson
Devan Irons
Logan Kostick
Jonathon Negron
Jon Savage
Jim Schmeits
Brian Waybright

GRIEVING

Family of Laura Stetter (Woodall)
Family of Ed Blakeslee
Family of Judi Ratzleigh (Anderson)
Family of Kathryn "Kitty" Patton, McCaskill/Patton
Family of Anna McCully - Dale Frank's sister

OUTREACH

WWW - Wash, Wipe, Wear

December's wintry distribution went off without a hitch! Pastor Mariah and Jean Pollock handed out diapers and bags of household essentials to 86 people! Many were so grateful for the items, we heard many people say **"Thank you"** and **"Merry Christmas"**; and smiles were in abundance. We gave out...

- 344 rolls of toilet paper
- 86 bottle of detergent
- 86 bottles of body wash
- 2050 diapers!

Thanks to Gale Faber who picked up the diapers from the Diaper Bank, thanks to helpers Martina Ngabonziza, Connie Seymour, Ruth Makovsky for packaging everything on Thursday.

On-going Community Needs

Your Rags to Riches

Please continue donating old towels, dish rags, and cotton t-shirts.

Little Free Pantry

non-perishable food

Gas Card Donations - \$25



Working Together with LCSNW Safe Families



Lutheran Community Services NW is so thankful for our partnership and friendship with Redeemer Lutheran Church. We co-hosted a Holiday Open House in December and thoroughly enjoyed visiting with members and inviting in our community. We wrapped gifts for the families we serve through Safe Families and enjoyed food, fellowship, and painting ornaments.



You helped make this Christmas special for 22 families and 60 kids! Families came to Redeemer to pick up gifts, and all were so touched by the generosity of others. Without you, and our church partnerships, this work could not be possible.

If you would like to receive notices about needs that surface for Safe Families' children and families during the year, you can sign up here to be a resource volunteer. It doesn't commit you to anything but you can learn and pray about opportunities to impact the lives of others who are less fortunate. <https://sfcms.net/apply/>

Thank you for your loving partnership, and wishing you health and blessings in 2024!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Esther Circle

Esther Circle will be meeting in the Fellowship Hall on

January 10 at 1:00 PM

Please bring your November/December Gather magazine.



THANK YOU!

I want to express my thanks to those who stepped up to fill in for my work while I was on medical leave for carpal tunnel surgery: Larry Kidd, Roxanne Wasson, Bonita Hammer, and Pastor Mariah, Alex Mills (and likely others). Healing from surgery is ongoing, but I'm doing well. I am also very grateful for the Christmas gift presented by the Council.

I wish you all a blessed new year!
Lin Carlson

Reuse of Vases and Plant Foil

If you purchase flowers and are wondering what to do with the empty vase, please return it to the fellowship hall. These vases are collected every few weeks and returned to our florist. They appreciate us doing that and are very happy to reuse them. Also, the foil that is on poinsettias and Easter flowers is also reused by our Altar Guild. Instead of throwing out, please return to the fellowship hall and we will reuse it. Thank you!

Redeemer Bingo Night

Save the Date! Bingo night at Redeemer hosted by the Confirmation Group.

Wednesday, January 10, 2024

6:30 - 8:30 PM

Light refreshments included. Please come and bring friends. All ages welcome.

NEED SOMEONE TO SHOVEL YOUR DRIVEWAY THIS WINTER?

SAM LEBOEUF AND OWEN PREBOSKI ARE FUNDRAISING FOR THE ELCA NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING NEXT SUMMER AND WILL SHOVEL YOUR DRIVEWAY AND SIDEWALKS FOR A DONATION

PLEASE CONTACT KELLI LEBOEUF (208-422-7350) AND KELLY PREBOSKI (208-644-0779)



Fundraiser for ELCA National Youth Convention

*thanks
for your
support*

FINANCIAL REPORT

PROFIT & LOSS STATEMENT				
	Oct 2023 Actual	Nov 2023 Actual	Monthly Budget	Annual Budget
Income	\$8,542	\$8,181	\$12,513	\$145,960
Expenses	\$11,725	\$15,705	\$17,402	\$166,381
Net Gain (Loss)	(\$3,183)	(\$7,524)	(\$4,889)	(\$20,421)
	Nov 2022 YTD Actual	Nov 2023 YTD Actual	2023 YTD Budget	Annual Budget
Income	\$118,647	\$115,233	\$133,447	\$145,960
Expenses	\$93,456	\$121,241	\$148,979	\$166,381
Net Gain (Loss)	\$25,191	(\$6,008)	(\$15,532)	(\$20,421)
BALANCE SHEET AS OF NOVEMBER 30, 2023				
	As of 11/2022	As of 11/2023		
Women's Checking	\$1,268	\$901		
Good Samaritan Fund	\$1,692	\$1,494		
Regular Checking	\$52,287	\$48,265		
Regular Savings	\$95,779	\$29,223		
Mission Investment	\$22,818	\$23,560		
Endowment Fund	\$249,631	\$284,400		
Total Assets	\$423,475	\$387,842		

Total Income for the month of November 2023 was below budget by \$(4,333). Offering income for November was \$(3,102) below budget. Total income YTD through November is below 2022 total income by \$(3,414). Total expenses for November were below budget by \$(1,698). Total Net Loss for November was \$(7,524) and YTD loss was \$(6,008). November YTD loss was below 2022 gain by \$(31,199) and \$9,524 better than budget YTD. Note that a Balance Sheet comparative of 2022 and 2023 account balances through November has been included again this month (see above). Thank you for your continuing financial support of Redeemer's mission. Please note that as we head into 2024 there are some financial concerns regarding the fact that the parsonage balance is now in the negative following all the recent upgrades to the facility. There are also multiple needs to the basic infrastructure of the church and grounds that will need to be addressed in the near future. As we all plan our budgets and contribution levels for 2024 please consider bumping your current giving levels to help achieve these necessary maintenance items for the church. - Submitted by Larry Kidd, Redeemer Treasurer